## **ORIGINAL**

## IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

IN RE: CLAIMS FOR VACCINE )
INJURIES RESULTING IN AUTISM )
SPECTRUM DISORDER, OR A SIMILAR )
NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER, )

Various Petitioners,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

FILED

JUN 1 5 2006

OSM U.S. COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS

AUTISM MASTER FILE Special Master Hastings

## NOTICE OF EXPERT WITNESSES1

Pursuant to the Special Master's Orders of August 11, 2005, and May 11, 2006, respondent herein submits this list of expert witnesses. Respondent intends to call each of the following individuals for testimony in response to the general causation case that petitioners will present during the Autism Omnibus Hearing:<sup>2</sup>

Michael Aschner, M.D., Ph.D., Director, Division of Pediatric Toxicology, Department of Pediatrics, Vanderbilt University.

As with prior filings, respondent has also filed this document into the record of <u>Taylor v. HHS</u>, No. 02-699V.

Respondent has attached curriculum vitae for each of the identified experts. In response to the Special Master's inquiry, respondent requests that these curriculum vitae not be placed on the Court of Federal Claims website.

Margaret Bauman, M.D., Associate Clinical Professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School.

Eric Fombonne, M.D., Director, Division of Child Psychiatry, McGill University.

Respondent notes, however, that this list of experts is not exclusive and requests the Special Master's indulgence in this regard. At this time, respondent's capacity both to identify individuals with the right expertise and to secure their commitment to testify is somewhat hampered by the fact that petitioners' theory of the case remains in its development. More so, to the extent that such individuals can be identified, respondent faces their reluctance to commit to participation because the hearing schedule is elusive. Until a schedule becomes firm, it is difficult for the potential experts to discern, and for respondent to estimate, the amount of hours that will be required of them and the time frame during which these hours will be expended.

Nevertheless, respondent continues to seek actively additional individuals whose expertise will assist the Special Master in his consideration of the issues presented at the Autism Omnibus Hearing. In light of some ongoing discussions with potential experts, and some forthcoming clarity in both the details of petitioners' causation case and the trial schedule, respondent anticipates that more experts will be named. By such action, respondent does not intend to prejudice the preparation

of petitioners' case in any way and assures the Special Master that the complete expert witness list will be provided with ample notice before hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: |5 30NE 2006

(Respondent also attached the *curriculum vitae* of the three experts. These documents have been filed into the Autism Master File, but are not being placed on the website for the Omnibus Autism Proceeding due to the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(d)(4)(A).)